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Date: October 4, 2007

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(Quyen Nguyen)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/798,739
Confirmation No.: 6427
Filing Date: March 10, 2004
Inventor(s): George D. HERMANN et al.
Title: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR USE IN MINIMALLY INVASIVE
APPROXIMATION OF MUSCLE AND OTHER TISSUE
Examiner: M. Ryckman
Group Art Unit: 3734

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patent
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-captioned application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a/b. Copies of the non-patent literature documents no. 1 and 2 were previously submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement and/or Office Action, directed to the related U.S. Patent No. 6,706,048 issued March 16, 2004, and accordingly, copies are not included herewith. However, a copy of the non-patent literature no. 3 is submitted herewith. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record in the application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance. The required fee is submitted herewith.

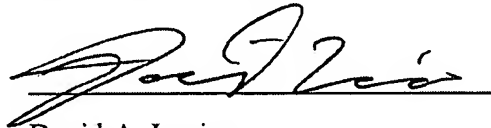
Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO/SB/08a/b, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the event the appropriate fee and/or petition is not filed herewith and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with this filing to Deposit Account No. 50-3973 referencing Attorney Docket No.

FGRTNA00602. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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